Mountain Weather Forecast

Snowdonia National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Saturday 17 Dec 2022 until 23:59 on Sunday 18 Dec 2022

Forecast Issued on Saturday 17 Dec 2022 at 03:18

Confidence: High confidence in the change in weather type after further wintery showers on Saturday to a return to milder conditions along with wet and windy conditions for Snowdonia. Lower confidence in the timing of the ingress of milder air on Sunday and precipitation type during the day.

Headline for Saturday 17 Dec 2022: Spells of snow above 800-900m for much of today, sometimes heavy.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 17 Dec 2022

Blizzards Low Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** Medium Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales Low Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** High Likelihood	**Poor visibility** High Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Light snow	Light snow
Precipitation probability					
40%	70%	70%	70%	70%	30%

Forecast for Saturday 17 Dec 2022

Weather: Spells of rain at low levels, sleet and snow at height today with widespread hill fog. The heaviest snow is likely across western and northern locations, where there is a low risk of blizzard conditions. Snow level initially 600m then temporarily rising to 800-900m, then decreasing to 400m this evening. This evening dry and clearer conditions will spread north, allowing temperatures to quickly fall this evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Nil in the north and west, 20-30% in the south and east. Later improving 80% as clearer conditions spread north.

Low Cloud and visibility: Extensive cloud layers above 500m around the northern and western mountains like Snowdon, more broken above 600m in the south and east. Visibility poor or very poor with the falling snow and also sometimes blowing snow, moderate or poor with the rain and sleet, but with possible blizzard conditions on the highest summits in the north and west. Outside of the precipitation and below the cloud there will be generally hazy conditions. Improving good or very good through the evening.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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Met Office Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Saturday 17 Dec 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	31/36 SW	29/34 SW	21/27 SW	21/27 SW	24/30 S	27/34 S	29/38 S
600	19/24 S	19/24 SW	15/21 SW	15/21 S	17/23 S	19/26 S	21/30 S
300	11/21 S	12/22 S	10/20 SW	10/19 S	12/22 S	13/24 S	14/28 S
Valley	11/21 S	12/23 SW	11/20 SW	10/19 S	12/22 S	13/24 S	16/30 S

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-1/-10	-1/-9	-1/-8	-0/-7	-1/-8	-1/-9	-2/-10
600	1/-6	1/-5	1/-4	1/-4	1/-4	1/-5	0/-6
300	2/-2	3/-1	3/-1	3/-0	3/-1	3/-1	2/-3
Valley	4/-0	4/0	5/1	4/1	4/0	4/0	3/-2
Freezing Level*	600m	800m	800m	900m	900m	800m	400m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Freezing level lifting temporarily, but despite this occasional blizzard conditions will still occur over the highest summits and especially across northern mountains. Full winter conditions still to be expected, including blowing snow at times. Still a significant windchill at height, although some melting will occur at lower levels.

Forecast for Sunday 18 Dec 2022

Weather: Dry and largely clear at first, but cloud will quickly increase and the wind strengthen. Gales or severe gales will develop through the morning as rain quickly spreads east across Wales. The rain will be heavy at times, falling as snow above 600m, then rising to above 1000m by early afternoon, and then above all summits after this. Widespread blizzards for the morning. Spells of light rain or drizzle will follow from late afternoon as the rain eases a little, but still conditions will be wet underfoot due to melting snow.

Maximum wind: Southerly 40-45 mph with gusts 50-55mph, stronger gusts on Snowdon at times, perhaps 60-65mph.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 80% quickly decreasing 10% or less as widespread hill fog develops.

Low Cloud and visibility: Scattered or broken layers of cloud above 400m soon developing, then becoming extensive through the morning. Good or very good conditions decreasing poor or very poor, with snow, hill fog and also blizzard conditions through the morning.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 2 rising to 8 Celsius.
At 800m: Minus 1 rising to Plus 7 Celsius.
Freezing level: 200m at first, then rising above all summits in the afternoon.

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Ground Conditions Supplement
Please see - https://snowdonia.gov.wales/visit/snowdon/yr-wyddfa-ground-conditions-reports/
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